

European leaders have done a lot lately but not enough. It is necessary to do more in the fields of education, public opinion, legislation and law enforcement.

At this time, we the Jews are not alone. I can see many good friends here who are standing with us. I am aware of many people, nations and leaders who are struggling against anti-Semitism, as they understand that anti-Semitism is a danger to the stability and peace in the world, to human values.

I am aware of European governments who are our partners in our efforts and concern to provide security for every Jew and they understand that Jews have the right to live without fear anywhere.

I appreciate the governments in Europe who have already appointed special ministerial committees for fighting anti-Semitism. I appreciate countries whose parliaments dedicated special sessions on the issue of anti-Semitism.

I appreciate those countries who have decided to strongly condemn anti-Semitism in international bodies.

Indeed, now at the beginning of the 21st century, the situation is very serious. There is an increase in violence and an escalation of anti-Semitism against the Jews but there is a big difference. We are not living in the thirties. We have a Jewish, sovereign and independent state and this makes a big difference.

We know what happened in the Second World War and what racism brought upon the world and, because of this I am very pleased that there is more awareness. Now leaders are more sensitive and they protect their citizens. There is legislation and law enforcement in many countries. The leaders speak out and there are many seminars and conferences against anti-Semitism. The strong position of the United States of America in this matter is remarkable. I also very much appreciate the position of the Vatican on this difficult and tragic issue.

I am very sorry that the Irish proposal to the United Nations General Assembly in December 2003, was not adopted, because of the objection of some Muslim countries. It is very sad that a special resolution which condemns anti-Semitism and attacks against Jews cannot be passed now in the United Nations.

The European Union should continue its efforts in this important initiative and in all multilateral organizations, in fighting against anti-Semitism.

We are very proud of our Jewish heritage and history. It is a source of pride for world Jewry. I hope that the Jewish people will also be a source of appreciation, understanding and respect and not a target for hatred.

I hope and pray for cooperation for development, prosperity and tolerance instead of destruction, bloodshed and hatred.

I would like to thank, you, President Rau and Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer for this important initiative. I believe that this meeting will be very constructive and that it will help us achieve our mutual goals.

I hope that the Berlin Conference will serve as a basis for continued efforts against anti-Semitism.

I wish to express my personal appreciation to President Rau for his wise and moral leadership, for his great friendship towards Israel and the Jewish people, and his personal dedication to the fight against anti-Semitism.

We have the strength and the will to create a better world, a just world for all humanity. Let us put all our efforts together to make it possible. Let us work together.

Thank you.

TRIBUTE TO GLEN DOUGLAS

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Master Sergeant Glen Douglas' sacrifice and service to our nation, which spanned twenty-two years and three wars, the first of which was World War II.

Glen Douglas is one of the most decorated veterans in our region, having received the Distinguished Service Medal and seven purple hearts among other honors.

The following excerpts from the May 4th, 2004 weekly edition of the Colville Statesman Examiner are a testament to the sacrifice, courage, commitment and leadership Mr. Douglas displayed throughout the course of his service.

Douglas's service to our country first began as an infantryman in Europe with the 101st Airborne (Screaming Eagles) in 1944 and then in the occupation army with the U.S. Constabulary. Douglas then served in the Korean War with the U.S. 2nd (Indianhead) Infantry Division from 1950-1953 before he was med-evacuated after being wounded for the eighth time. In the incidents prior when he had been wounded and evacuated, he would be taken as far as Japan before he would disappear from the hospital, get clothes and take a boat back to his Infantry Division. "I would get very angry having somebody else lead the men and lose them." Douglas said, "I hardly ever lost a man when I was leading. After being wounded for the eighth time, Douglas nearly lost his legs and spent four years, four months and twenty-six days in the Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Denver before he was released. He was told he would never walk again. But Douglas had his own ideas. "I was released December 23, 1957" Douglas remembered. By 1959, "I was jumping out of airplanes again." Douglas served two tours in Vietnam with the Special Forces (Green Beret) and then again with the highly classified Studies and Operations Group before retiring after twenty-two years of service.

I was pleased to learn that Mr. Douglas was recently selected by fellow veterans from local chapters of the American Legion, VFW, and Marine Corps League to receive an all expense paid trip to Washington D.C. in order to represent them during the upcoming dedication of the National World War II Memorial later this month.

The Memorial is a fitting tribute to the great courage and selfless dedication of soldiers who fought in the Second World War and as we approach Memorial Day, I encourage my colleagues to reflect on the great sacrifices of men like Glen Douglas.

IN HONOR OF THE MILE SQUARE DAY CARE CENTER ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Mile Square Day Care Center in celebration of its 25th anniversary. The Mile Square Day Care Center will celebrate with a

25th Anniversary Celebration Reception on Thursday, May 20, 2004, at The Lighthouse in West New York, New Jersey.

In 1977, a group of dedicated community minded people, with the help and guidance of Mayor Steve Cappiello, established a not-for-profit corporation to develop and run programs for young children. And through the hard work of the original board of directors, Hugh Kilmer, James Monaco, Dr. Frank Colon, Dr. Gerard Costa; and Charles A. Tortorella, the Mile Square Day Care Center was established in 1979.

In order to maintain the balance of community and parent involvement, the board of directors, since its inception, has consisted of an equal number of community members and parents. The original board of directors developed an environment that was nurturing and loving to the children. With the wide range of social, economic, and cultural groups, the activities in the Mile Square Day Care Center represented and continue to represent the diversity of its children and the city.

For twenty-five years, the Mile Square Day Care Center has touched the lives of over 3,000 families, providing the first preschool program in the City of Hoboken. Established in 1982 by former Executive Director Rosemary Fuocco, the Mile Square Day Care Center also began providing infant and toddler care for children ages three months to three years, and continues to provide preschool service for children three to five years of age. With a curriculum established with a hands-on approach, each child is given the opportunity to reach his or her intellectual and social potential.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the community leaders and dedicated parents, past and present, of the Mile Square Day Care Center, in recognition of their outstanding contributions and dedication to our children over the last twenty-five years.

TRIBUTE TO A.W. PICKEL, III, UPON THE COMPLETION OF HIS TENURE AS PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MORTGAGE BROKERS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, A.W. Pickel, III, of Lenexa, Kansas, will soon be completing a distinguished tenure as President of the National Association of Mortgage Brokers (NAMB) and the Kansas Association of Mortgage Brokers. NAMB provides invaluable services for the mortgage broker industry which originates two out of three home loans in the country. It is the voice of the mortgage broker industry, with more than 16,000 members in all 50 states.

As you know, home ownership is at an all time record rate largely due to the contributions of mortgage brokers; through his involvement in NAMB, A.W. Pickel has been instrumental in shaping housing policy in this country.

A.W. Pickel, III, was the founding president of the Kansas Association of Mortgage Brokers and still serves as an active ex-officio member of the Kansas Association of Mortgage Brokers' Board of Directors. In 1999, the